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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A mounting aid for positioning an orthodontic bracket to a tooth, ~~said mounting aid comprising a sheet strip and a resilient tensioning device to secure the sheet strip, the tensioning device being attachable with respect to the bracket, and a sheet strip,~~ the sheet strip having a holding member extending from an outer surface of the sheet strip for firmly holding the tensioning device to the sheet strip, an abutment portion extending forward a length from the holding member for positively engaging the bracket and having outer and inner surfaces substantially equally spaced apart along the length, a holding portion for fastening the tensioning device to the sheet strip whereby to secure the sheet strip to the bracket, and a lug extending rearward a length away from the holding portion member and having outer and inner surfaces equally spaced apart along the length.

2. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 1 wherein the bracket has a frame and the abutment portion has a front an edge extending between the outer and inner surfaces and a tongue extending from the edge, the edge being adapted to be received within an undercut beneath the frame engage the frame from below the frame and the tongue being adapted to engage the frame from above the frame and to extend through a gap defined by the frame.

3. (Original) The mounting aid of claim 2 wherein the resilient tensioning device is an elastomeric O-ring.

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7. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 22 [[6]] wherein the anchoring member has an end that forms a hook.

8. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 22 [[6]] wherein the anchoring member is adapted to firmly hold the tensioning device.

9. (Original) The mounting aid of claim 8 wherein the tensioning device is an elastomeric O-ring.

10. (Original) The mounting aid of claim 1 wherein the lug includes a plurality of projections.

11. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 1 wherein the lug includes a narrow proximal portion having side edges and a widened distal end extending orthogonally outward from the side edges.

12. (Currently Amended) A mounting aid for mounting an orthodontic bracket to a tooth comprising a sheet strip and a resilient tensioning means member adapted to secure the sheet strip to the bracket, the sheet strip including having an abutment member means for adapted to positively engage engaging the bracket, a holding member adapted to firmly hold means for fastening the tensioning means to the sheet strip, and a lug extending away from the holding member means.

13. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 12 wherein the bracket has a frame and the abutment member means comprises an edge and a tongue, the edge being adapted to engage the frame from below the frame and the tongue being adapted to engage the frame from above the frame.

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20. (Currently Amended) The mounting aid of claim 12 wherein the lug has a plurality of projections and a widened end, the end having a hole.

21. (New) A mounting aid for positioning an orthodontic bracket to a tooth comprising a spring attachable with respect to the bracket and a sheet strip having an abutment portion for positively engaging the bracket, a holding portion for fastening the spring to the sheet strip such that the spring secures the sheet strip to the bracket, and a lug extending away from the holding portion, wherein the abutment portion has an edge adapted to engage a frame of the bracket from below the frame and a tongue adapted to engage the frame from above the frame.

22. (New) A mounting aid for positioning an orthodontic bracket to a tooth comprising a resilient tensioning device attachable with respect to the bracket, a sheet strip having an abutment portion for positively engaging the bracket, a holding portion for fastening the tensioning device to the sheet strip such that the tensioning device secures the sheet strip to the bracket, and a lug extending away from the holding portion, and an anchoring member adapted to attach to the bracket such that the anchoring member secures the tensioning device to the bracket.